comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a surface of a wood substrate with a first formulation comprising a metal salt and a solvent,

(b) penetrating the surface of the wood substrate with an effective amount of the first formulation to penetrate the wood substrate, and sequentially

(c) contacting the wood substrate with a second formulation comprising an oxidizing agent and a solvent,

(d) penetrating the surface of the wood substrate with an effective amount of the second formulation, thereby reacting the first and second formulations with each other in contact with the wood substrate, and imparting a stable change to the characteristics of the wood substrate,

wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of molybdenum (VI) oxide, zinc sulfate, copper (II) chloride, nickel perchlorate, nickel sulfate, nickel perchlorate, nickel sulfate, copper (II) perchlorate, tin (II) sulfate, tin (I) chloride, chromium (III) sulfate, aluminum sulfate, cerium (III) perchlorate, zinc peroxide, titanium hydride, chromium (III) perchlorate, manganese (II) chloride, aluminum chloride, titanium (IV) chloride, silver chloride, and titanium (II) sulfate, and combinations.

53. (Amended) Treating and coloring a wood substrate with a kit comprising

(a) a first formulation of a metal salt and a solvent,

(b) a second formulation of an oxidizing agent and a

solvent; and

(c) instructions for sequentially applying the first and the second or the second and the first formulations for penetrating the wood substrate when applied, and both formulations, when applied sequentially in effective amounts, reacting with each other in situ and imparting a changed fixed physical characteristic to the wood substrate, and

the treating and coloring comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting the wood substrate with the first component solution preparation comprising the oxidizable metal salt, and allowing an effective amount of the first component solution preparation to penetrate the wood substrate, and sequentially,

(b) contacting the wood substrate with the second component solution preparation comprising an oxidizing agent, and allowing an effective amount of the second component solution preparation to penetrate the wood substrate, thereby

reacting in situ within the wood substrate the first and the second component solution preparations with each other in contact with the wood substrate, and

imparting a stable color change to color characteristics of the wood substrate.